

What is claimed is:

1. An information processing device for enabling devices connected to a local area network to operate cooperatively, said information processing device comprising a control unit, a memory, and a transceiver unit connected to said local area network,

said control unit generating, in accordance with selection of one or more of said devices by a user, data representative of one or more cooperative operations executable by using said selected one or more devices,

said control unit providing to said one or more selected devices, via said local area network, a necessary command to execute one of said one or more executable cooperative operations that is selected by said user.

2. An information processing device according to claim 1, wherein said control unit stores a record of said executed cooperative operation in said memory.

3. An information processing device according to claim 1, wherein said control unit produces data representative of a cooperative operation executed in the past and recorded in said memory, independently of said selected one or more devices.

4. An information processing device according to claim 1, wherein, when the devices configured to said local area network are changed, said control unit anew generates data representative of one or more cooperative operations executable by using said selected one or more devices in accordance with the devices currently connected to said local area network.

5. An information processing device according to claim 1, wherein, when a device necessary for said selected cooperative operation is not connected to said

local area network, said control unit produces data representative of said necessary device.

5 6. An information processing device according to claim 1, wherein, when a device necessary for said selected cooperative operation is not connected to said local area network, said control unit executes said cooperative operation in response to subsequent connection of said necessary device to said local area network.

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7. An information processing device according to claim 1, wherein said control unit determines said one or more executable cooperative operations by looking up a table including cooperative operations and associated devices.

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8. An information processing device according to claim 1, wherein said control unit determines a device required to be connected to said local area network in order to execute said selected cooperative operation which was used in the past, by comparing devices associated with said selected cooperative operation used in the past with the devices currently connected to said local area network.

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25 9. An information processing device comprising a control unit, a memory, and a transceiver unit connected to said local area network,

said control unit generating data representative of one or more cooperative operations executed in the past and recorded in said memory,

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said control unit providing a necessary command to execute one of said one or more cooperative operations that is selected by a user, to one or more devices associated with said selected cooperative operation via said local area network.

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10. An information processing device according to

claim 9, wherein said control unit determines a device required to be connected to said local area network in order to execute again said cooperative operation executed in the past, by comparing devices associated with said selected cooperative operation with the devices currently  
5 connected to said local area network.

11. An information processing device according to claim 9, wherein, when a device necessary for said  
10 selected cooperative operation is not connected to said local area network, said control unit generates data representative of said necessary device.

12. An information processing device according to  
15 claim 9, wherein, when a device necessary for said selected cooperative operation is not connected to said local area network, said control unit generates data representative of another device which is connected to said local area network and substitutable for said  
20 necessary device.

13. An information processing device according to claim 9, wherein, when a device necessary for said selected cooperative operation is not connected to said  
25 local area network, said control unit executes said cooperative operation in response to subsequent connection of said necessary device to said local area network.

14. An information processing device comprising a  
30 control unit, a memory, and a transceiver unit connected to said local area network,

said control unit generating data representative of one or more cooperative operations,

when a device necessary for executing one of said one  
35 or more cooperative operations that is selected by a user is not connected to said local area network, said control unit producing data representative of another device which

is connected to said local area network and substitutable for said necessary device.

5 15. A program stored on a storage medium for use in an information processing device connected to a local area network, for enabling devices connected to said local area network to operate cooperatively, said program operable to effect the steps of:

10 generating, in accordance with selection of one or more of said devices by a user, data representative of one or more cooperative operations executable by using said selected one or more devices; and

15 providing to said one or more selected devices, via said local area network, a necessary command to execute one of said one or more executable cooperative operations that is selected by said user.

20 16. A program according to claim 15, operable to further effect the step of storing a record of said executed cooperative operation in a memory.

25 17. A program according to claim 15, operable to further effect the step of anew generating data representative of one or more cooperative operations executable by using said selected one or more devices in accordance with the devices currently connected to said local area network, when the devices configured to said local area network are changed.

30 18. A program stored on a storage medium for use in an information processing device connected to a local area network, said program operable to effect the steps of:

35 generating data representative of one or more cooperative operations executed in the past and recorded in a memory; and

providing a necessary command to execute one of said one or more cooperative operations that is selected by a

user, to one or more devices associated with said selected cooperative operation via said local area network.

19. A program according to claim 18, operable to  
5 further effect the step of determining a device required  
to be connected to said local area network in order to  
execute again said cooperative operation executed in the  
past, by comparing devices associated with said selected  
cooperative operation with the devices currently connected  
10 to said local area network.

20. A program according to claim 18, operable to  
further effect the step of generating data representative  
of a device necessary for said selected cooperative  
15 operation, when said necessary device is not connected to  
said local area network.

21. A program according to claim 18, operable to  
further effect the step of generating data representative  
20 of a device which is connected to said local area network  
and substitutable for a device necessary for executing  
said selected cooperative operation, when said necessary  
device is not connected to said local area network.

22. A program stored on a storage medium for use in  
25 an information processing device connected to a local area  
network, said program operable to effect the steps of:

generating data representative of one or more  
cooperative operations; and

30 producing data representative of a device which is  
connected to said local area network and substitutable for  
a device necessary for executing one of said one or more  
cooperative operations that is selected by a user, when  
said necessary device is not connected to said local area  
35 network.